

Andrew Jackson to Francis Preston Blair, April 23, 1842, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO FRANCIS P. BLAIR.

Hermitage, April 23, 1842.

My dear Blair, I have got the two fillies up near me and they are improving much—they have been badly attended to thro the winter, are now in a good rye lott by day and stables near me at night and I will soon determine which I think worthy of the name of Miss Emuckfa. They are both full bred and of good crosses, the sister of the three year old a fine runner—her mother is by the noted horse Virginian, of a pure running strain. I will as soon as I can get the pedigree from Andrew who has it locked up, inclose it with the two year olds. 1 the two year old is sired by stockholder, her dam by Deshas oscar, her grand dam by Pacolet, her great grandam by Truxton her G.G. grandam the oposum filly. the dam of the two year old was the fleetest animal ever known here excep Truxton. if I can get her size anough, she is my favorite, altho the three year old is of a good runing stock and of good bone and sinew, and all her sisters that have been tried good runners. When shall I forward them. I would like to try good feeding on them until fall.

1 See p. 219, post.

I see congress is intending to give us a paper, continental currency, and like it, will depreciate and destroy the credit of the government. What a base hypocrite must clayton 2 be, he votes for Bentons amendment, then for a reconsiderate of it, knowing from their caucus, that if reconsidered, it will be adopted. This Mr. Clayton, and Mr. Archer 3 are fit materials for vassals of Mr. Clay. If these two men would only consider how much

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they are despised by all men of principle, for their subserviency to a pure unadulterated demagogue, Clay, they would loathe themselves, and retire to obscurity before the frowns of the people send them there. Will Tyler permit the distribution bill to go into operation with a tariff above 20 percent, tell me.

2 John M. Clayton, senator from Delaware.

3 William S. Archer, senator from Virginia.

I have been quite unwell for some time, and scarcely able to write—with pain in my ears, head and eyes, it is quite an effort.

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My whole household Unite with me in the kindest salutations to you and yours. How I would delight to see and converse with you. Mr. vanBuren I expect tomorrow or next day. 4 your friend sincerely,

4 Van Buren seems to have arrived Apr. 25. He was received with enthusiasm by the people of Nashville and proceeded to the Hermitage, where the master awaited him eagerly.